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**BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the



**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

for the year

**1962**



1962  
BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

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*Mayor :*

COUNCILLOR J. M. CORNWALL

*Deputy Mayor :*

ALDERMAN H. E. CORNWALL

**Public Health Committee :**

*(Full Council)*

Chairman : Alderman A. E. Busby, J.P.

Alderman P. J. Small.

Alderman S. G. Williams.

Coun. J. M. Cornwall

Coun. C. G. Hardy

„ J. Edmonds

„ T. E. Holton

„ F. Akister

„ A. G. F. Marriott

„ E. Goss

„ T. Lambourne

„ H. Adams

„ F. F. De Angeli

„ F. E. Y. Fleet

„ J. A. B. Gilchrist

**Public Health Staff**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

D. H. WALDRON, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.M.S. (Rtd).  
(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Winslow R.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Newport Pagnell R.D.C., and Wolverton U.D.C., and Divisional School M.O. for North Bucks and Buckingham and Winslow District and Area Medical Officer for North Bucks).

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

R. M. LASLET, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Health Inspector :*

R. TAYLOR, M.S.I.A.

Telephone : Buckingham 2295.

*Secretary :*

MISS J. HOWLETT.

# BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

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TOWN HALL,

BUCKINGHAM,

19th July, 1963.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Buckingham.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962.

The Birth Rate shows a rise and is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points higher than the Rate for the Country as a whole.

The Death Rate shows a satisfactory drop and is nearly 3 points less than that for the rest of the Country. Of the total of 41 deaths Heart and Allied Diseases accounted for 29.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows the most satisfactory figure of nil compared with 24.4 in 1961.

I should like to record again my thanks to your Town Clerk, Mr. Archdeacon, your Borough Surveyor and Health Inspector, Mr. Rennie Taylor, and their staffs for their helpful co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DANIEL H. WALDRON.

## A. Vital Statistics

					1962	1961
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	5,367	5,367
Population	..	..	..	..	4,390	4,360
Number of Inhabited Houses			..	..	1,843	1,779
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	£62,137	£59,492
Rate per £1	..	..	..	..	24/6	23/-
Sum represented by a Penny Rate				..	£300	£245

BIRTHS :				M.	F.		
Legitimate	..	..		41	43	84	76
Illegitimate	..	..		0	1	1	6
Birth rate per 1,000 population			..	..		20.5	19.9
„ „ „ „			„	(Bucks)	..	19.2	18.6
„ „ „ „			„	(England)			
and Wales)	..	..	..	..		18.0	17.4
Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	1

				M.	F.		
DEATHS	..	..	..	27	14	41	53
Death rate per 1,000 population			..	..		9.1	11.9
„ „ „ „				(Bucks)		9.6	9.4
„ „ „ „			„	(England & Wales)		11.9	12.0
Maternal Mortality Rate	..	..	..	..		Nil	Nil
„ „ „ „			„	(Bucks)	..	0.10	0.11
„ „ „ „			„	(England & Wales)		0.35	0.33

## INFANTILE MORTALITY :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per							
1,000 live births	..	..	..			Nil	24.4
„ „ (Bucks)	..	..				17.9	18.1
„ „ (England & Wales)						21.4	21.4

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH :					1962			1961		
					M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Respiratory Tuberculosis	..				1	0	1	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	..	..			0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	..	..	..		0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	..	..	..	..	5	4	9	5	4	9
Diabetes	..	..	..		0	0	0	0	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..				6	5	11	2	6	8
Heart Disease	..	..	..		7	2	9	2	4	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory										
System	..	..	..		1	0	1	3	0	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..		4	0	4	2	1	3
Pneumonia	..	..	..		1	1	2	3	0	3
Digestive Diseases	..	..			0	1	1	1	0	1
Congenital Causes	..	..			0	0	0	0	1	1
Nephritis	..	..	..		0	0	0	1	0	1
Accidents	..	..	..		1	0	1	4	0	4
All other Causes	..	..			1	1	2	1	12	13
					—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	..				27	14	41	24	29	53
					—	—	—	—	—	—

## B. General Provision of Health Services

### 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for pathological investigation were sent, as in previous years, to the laboratory at Oxford. The arrangement was satisfactory. Samples for chemical analysis have to be sent to Haywards Heath.

### 2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These are administered direct from the County Health Department, Aylesbury. One "Utilicon" car was stationed in Buckingham, and supplemented when necessary with ambulances from Bletchley. All vehicles are radio controlled.

### 3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nurses as always carried out their excellent work.

#### 4. CLINICAL AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre—A Centre at the Congregational Chapel Hall has held bi-monthly sessions with the Medical Officer in attendance once a month. Although the amenities of the Centre were far from ideal, good work has been carried out therein and attendance has been satisfactory. Total attendance of children throughout the year was 677. I feel that too much praise cannot be given to those ladies who give so much of their spare time in helping with this work. Diphtheria and other immunisations were also carried out in this Clinic.

(b) Orthopaedic Clinic—Sessions have been held twice monthly and have been staffed by nurses from the Wingfield Morris Hospital.

(c) Chest Clinic—This self-contained unit, complete with X-ray, continues to do very good work. It is held once a week at Buckingham Hospital, and is attended by the Chest Physician.

#### 5. HOSPITALS.

The following hospitals have received cases from this area :

1. Buckingham Hospital.
2. Aylesbury Isolation Hospital (Infectious cases).
3. Slade Hospital, Oxford.
4. Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
5. Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford.
6. Creton Sanatorium.
7. Royal Bucks.
8. Tindal Hospital.

#### 6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, instituted under the National Health Service Act, is administered by the County Council. During the year 63 cases were assisted.

### C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### 1. WATER.

The public water supply was maintained throughout the year adequately. The quality was at all times satisfactory.

Average daily consumption was 45.15 gallons per head of the population.

Metered premises used 19,629,886 gallons.

The total amount of water consumed during the year in Buckingham and Gawcott was 72,276,800 gallons.

Abstraction from the Maids Moreton wells was 71,769, 800 gallons during the year. No serious breakdown of plant or machinery occurred.

Peak consumption was 241,400 gallons per day on the 5th January.

Nine bacteriological examinations were made on the raw water, all were satisfactory.

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC WATER

				Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	..	..	..	48.0	33.6
Combined Chlorine (Cl)	..	..	..	2.2	1.5
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	..			3.6	2.5
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	..	..	..	0.04	0.03
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	..	..	..	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	..	..	..	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3)	..			26.5	18.6
Permanent hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3)	..			8.0	5.6
Total hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3)	..			34.5	24.2

## 2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewage disposal works at Bourton is producing a satisfactory effluent before discharge into the river.

Plans are complete for a one-third extension to the works together with a new Pumping Station and the laying of a new sewer in Stratford Road.

This work when completed will give the Town capacity for new development and also deal with drainage from Maids Moreton by arrangement with the Rural District Council.

New methods of sludge treatment are being incorporated with the object of reducing nuisance to nearby residents.

The Gawcott Treatment Plant continues to serve that part of the Borough. New media was supplied to the filter beds, using iron ore slag, a material which is being used on an increasing scale for this purpose.

In the near future improvements may be necessary to bring this Plant up to modern standards. The Great Ouse River Board is the Authority supervising the discharge of effluents in the area.

### 3. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the area.

Complaints regarding refuse collection are few and infrequent.

Refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping method. One tip is used at Gawcott and a tip at Stratford Road, Buckingham is in operation. The latter site should provide tipping space for the town for a considerable number of years.

### 4. SWIMMING POOL.

The Pool continued to be well patronised during the Summer season.

Season ticket sales produced	£90 15 6
Gate receipts produced	£278 4 0
Refreshments sold amounted to	£187 18 9

The Education Dept. contributed £190 3 4 for the use of the pool by local schools for swimming instruction.

The pool water was at all times satisfactory.

Six children's boats were purchased and let for hire during the Summer on part of the river adjoining the Swimming Pool. They proved a popular innovation and produced £38 15 11 in hire charges.

New Buildings for Changing Accommodation should be completed at the Swimming Pool during the 1963 Season.

### 5. FACTORIES.

No matters calling for special attention have been reported.

Factory extensions are in hand at Messrs. E. & F. Richardson's and also Messrs. Leslie Hartridge, Ltd.

There seems to be a general trend towards expansion amongst industrial undertakings in the town.

No outworkers were notified to the Council during 1962.

# PART I OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	5	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	29	41	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	16	3	—
TOTAL	38	71	3	—

## 6. PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, situated in this Council's yard, continued to serve the needs of the Borough and the Rural District.

## D. Housing.

No new Council Houses were completed during the year.

46 three-bedroom Houses and 20 Garages were commenced towards the year-end for completion in 1963.

Although Private House building is overtaking Council building in quantity, a keen demand continues for Council Houses. At the end of 1962, 182 applicants were on the Housing List.

## E. Annual Report of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I have pleasure in presenting a brief report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during 1962.

### NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTION OF BYE-LAWS, ETC.

Complaints received and investigated .. .. .	584
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint .. ..	14
Nuisances, etc., abated .. .. .	505
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	Nil
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	68
Prosecutions .. .. .	—

### HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts were as follows :—

Dairies and Cowsheds .. .. .	28
Bakehouses .. .. .	32
Butchers' Shops .. .. .	75
Slaughter Houses .. .. .	115
Foodshops .. .. .	42
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order .. .. .	—
Infected house visits (excluding Tuberculosis cases) ..	—
Dwelling houses .. .. .	419

### HOUSING ACTS.

A number of houses still remain occupied and fall short of standard requirements, some of these are occupied by families not prepared to pay higher rents charged for council housing accommodation.

# CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	203	..	6	672	327	..
Number inspected	203	..	6	672	327	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerici				1		
Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	..	..	5	2	..
% of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerici	4.4%	..	..	.74	.61	..
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
% of inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	..	..	..
Generalised and totally con- demned	..	..	..	..	..	..

23 Articles of other foods were condemned and destroyed during the year.

A case of Anthrax occurred during the year in a Slaughter-man at a Knackers' Yard.

All the meat on the Premises was destroyed by burning and disinfection was carried out. The source of infection was traced with the co-operation of other Local Authorities.

The patient made a good recovery.

Close attention has been paid to food premises, having regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The number of premises affected by the regulations being 83 and falling into the following categories :—

Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	8
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	16
Stalls	..	..	..	..	5
Canteens	..	..	..	..	15
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	35
Dairies	..	..	..	..	3

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act is 22, and all such premises are regularly inspected.

No clean food campaigns have been sponsored during the period.

All food premises have been supplied with extracts from the Food Hygiene Regulations.

#### PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit	30
Inspection of Petroleum Stores .. .. .	41

#### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.

#### RODENT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Work under this heading has continued to occupy a large amount of time, and much good work has been done in this direction throughout the year. The following is a brief summary of the work carried out :—

Number of complaints received	..	..	..	31
Number of premises treated for rats	..	..	..	53
Number of premises treated for mice	..	..	..	6
Estimated number of rats destroyed	..	..	..	110
Actual rats' bodies found	..	..	..	—
Visits for Inspection and Survey	..	..	..	91
Visits for Baiting and Extermination	..	..	..	82

RENNIE TAYLOR,

*Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.*

## F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

### 1. GENERAL.

We were very free from notifiable infectious diseases.

### 2. NUMBER OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

						1961	1962
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	30	—
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	4	—
Anthrax	..	..	..	..	..	—	1

### 3. CANCER.

There were 9 deaths from this disease during the year.

### 4. TUBERCULOSIS.

One new case was notified and there was one death.

D. H. WALDRON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



*E. N. Hillier & Sons Ltd.*  
*Printers*  
*Buckingham*